

Lunesdale Rural District Council



REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND THE
Public Health Inspector
for the Year
1969

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1969

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Lunesdale Rural District Council:*

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to present for your consideration this Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of Lunesdale Rural District, in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1969. The form and contents follow the usual pattern and are in accordance with the Circular 1/70 from the Department of Health.

The estimated population has again increased by several hundred, seventy or so by an excess of births over deaths, but the greater number due to migration into the area, as a result of the continued building development in certain villages. The new type of "country dweller" now expects town amenities, and the days of lower living standards in return for lower rates, are happily passing; new schools have been built, branch libraries, street lighting and for 90% of the population, a weekly refuse collection. To maintain high standards of public health and hygiene in such an extensive area, and to cope with the never-ending stream of legislation, necessary in our modern complex society, it may not be long before additional professional staff is required. A good example is the implementation of the Imported Food Regulations, 1968, when together with 7,000 pounds of meat, 50,000 chickens were received into the District, and had to be cleared by the Health Department.

That the District is particularly healthy is illustrated by the death rate—7.8 per 1,000 population—this is after adjustment, to permit a direct comparison with the age-sex structure of the population of the whole of England and Wales. The national rate for the year was 11.9 per 1,000 population. Similarly, the adjusted birth rate was high compared with that for the whole country.

It was a healthy year with regard to notifiable infectious diseases, chiefly because it was an inter-epidemic year for measles. Scarlet fever reappeared, and conversely there were no cases of whooping cough. Of particular interest is Infectious Hepatitis (Jaundice) which affects all age groups, not just children. This disease was first made notifiable only two years ago and already it has shown to be more widespread than generally thought. Although usually running a rapid course with normal recovery, it means time lost at school or by industry; sometimes there are lasting effects and even a fatal outcome. It is thus important for us in the field of preventive medicine

to study the epidemiology, whilst the pathologists and clinicians pursue research into the nature of the virus, with the possibility of producing a vaccine against the disease.

You will see that there were no cases of tuberculosis notified during the year. This was a great relief following the worrying total of 12 in 1968.

The acceptance rate for immunisations and vaccinations in 1969 was at a surprising and very disappointing low level, not only locally but throughout the country. There was a drop from 80% to 60% in eligible babies protected against diphtheria, and from 40% to 20% for smallpox vaccination. There may be some administrative reasons for this alarming state, and in this area of Lancashire a special investigation has been set in motion.

Our measles vaccination campaign suffered an unfortunate setback when stocks of one of the brands of vaccine were withdrawn, and alternative sources not readily available. At the time of writing this Report, adequate stocks are again at hand, and a national publicity drive launched. During the intervening months, there has been yet another measles epidemic.

Once again, no houses were demolished as unfit for habitation; in fact the reverse is now happening in our beautiful valley—conversions of barns to dwelling-houses. The era of slum clearance is passing and now generous grants are available for the upgrading of twilight property. This conserves our capital resources and is cheaper than clearance and rebuilding, at the same time maintaining the character of our charming villages.

Not having mentioned Brucellosis last year, I feel at liberty to comment this time. At last the politicians are moving, and whilst their progress is apparently ponderous, it is justified. Instead of a once and for all eradication scheme, a start was made by registering brucella-free herds—many of the herds in this District have been accepted—so ensuring a source of replacement stock for subsequent eradication programmes. Recently, the Ministry has announced a financial incentive for farmers who provide milk from registered herds, and it is anticipated that the first eradication areas will be defined early in 1971. Here in Lunesdale we are still finding positive cows as a result of samples taken for bacteriological examination and I refer you to page 37.

Finally may I thank the Committee for their continued interest in our work and add my personal gratitude to Mr. Nelson for his devoted work throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. V. DYER,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

AREA of the District (Acres)	...	...	...	...	76,267
POPULATION (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	7,351
(Census 1961)	...	...	...	...	8,224
POPULATION (Registrar General's Estimate mid-1969)...					10,770
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES :—					
According to Rate Book (1951)	...	...			2,091
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES :—					
According to Rate Book (1969)	...	...			3,585
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSE (1969)					2.98
NUMBER OF HOUSES PER ACRE (1969) ...			...		0.04
NUMBER OF PERSONS PER ACRE (1969)				...	0.14
RATEABLE VALUE 1969...	...	...	...		£400,185
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE				...	£1,607

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF INHABITANTS

The social conditions of the District are reasonably satisfactory and the chief occupations of the inhabitants are :—

Agriculture

Manufacture of Textiles

Limestone Quarrying

Brick Manufacture

There is no unemployment in the District.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1969

<i>Live Births</i>						Males	Females	Total
Legitimate...	...	...	...	...	...	89	92	181
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
						93	93	186
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population						...	...	17.3
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 population						...	...	18.7
Proportion (per cent) of illegitimate live births to total live births						...	...	3
<i>Still Births</i>								
Number registered	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Still-birth rate per 1,000 total births								21
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL-BIRTHS	...					96	94	190
<i>Infant Deaths</i>								
Total infant deaths (under 1 year)...						3	3	6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...			32
Total infant deaths (under 4 weeks)						1	3	4
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...			22
Total infant deaths (under 1 week)						1	2	3
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...					16
STILL-BIRTHS AND DEATHS UNDER 1 WEEK	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births								37
DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES								Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)								Nil
DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES	...	...	...			53	61	114
Crude death rate per 1,000 popn.								10.6
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 popn.								7.8
<i>Deaths from Certain Specified Diseases</i>						Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population	
Cancer (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	17	1.59	
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...				1	0.10	

**TABLE SHOWING CLASSIFICATION OF
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1969**

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parastitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, intestine... ..	1	4	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	2	2	4
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	—	—	—
Other diseases of nervous system	—	1	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	—	2	2
Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—
Hypertensive disease	1	1	2
Ishaemic heart disease	19	16	35
Other heart disease	1	7	8
Cerebro vascula disease	9	5	14
Other cirulatory disease	3	1	4
Influenza... ..	1	1	2
Pneumonia	3	2	5
Bronchitis and emphysema	4	2	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1	1
Peptic ulcer	—	1	1
Appendicitis	1	—	1
Other diseases of the digestive system	—	1	1
Nephritis nephrosis	—	1	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	—	1	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital abnormalities	—	1	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	2	3
Symptoms and ill defined diseases	1	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1	1
All other accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
TOTAL DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES	53	61	114

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1969 AND THE PERIOD 1964—1968

YEAR	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Still births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. regis- tered	Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Crude Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal	
									No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1969	186	17.3*	114	10.6*	4	21.0	Nil.	Nil.	6	32.0	4	22.0
1968	161	15.4	107	10.2	3	18.0	Nil.	Nil.	4	25.0	3	19.0
1967	178	17.9	106	10.7	2	11.0	Nil.	Nil.	2	11.0	Nil.	Nil.
1966	158	16.3	125	12.9	3	18.6	Nil.	Nil.	2	12.7	1	6.3
1965	186	19.6	104	11.0	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	1	5.4	1	5.4
1964	188	20.4	118	12.8	2	10.5	Nil.	Nil.	3	16.0	2	10.6
AVERAGE 5 yrs 1964-1968	—	17.8	—	11.4	—	13.2	Nil.	Nil.	—	17.0	—	10.5

* Adjusted { live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.08) = 18.7 per 1,000
death-rate (comparability factor, 0.74) = 7.8 per 1,000

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA**

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Ambulance Service

Lancaster Ambulance Station. Telephone Lancaster 3311.

Care of Children

No 12 Area Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council.
Area Children's Officer : Miss F. M. JAY, B.A., 41 West Road,
Lancaster. Telephone 66246.

Clinics

1. CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

- (a) Hornby, Village Institute, alternate Thursdays, 2 to 4 p.m
- (b) Caton Institute, every Wednesday, 2 to 4 p.m.
- (c) Halton, The Clinic, Pennystone Road, Halton, every Thursday, 2 to 4 p.m.
- (d) Carnforth, Market Street, Every Tuesday, 2 to 4 p.m.

2. DENTAL

- (a) Market Street, Carnforth : Every Thursday, by arrangement.
- (b) Ashton Road Clinic, Lancaster : Daily, by arrangement.

3. IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

- (a) Protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox, tuberculosis and measles can be provided free of charge at Child Welfare Centres within the district. Appointments arranged as required.
- (b) The same services can also be provided free by the General Medical Practitioners in the area.

4. OPHTHALMIC

Market Street, Carnforth : Alternate Wednesday mornings.

5. ORTHOPAEDIC

Ashton Road Clinic, Lancaster : By arrangement.

6. MINOR AILMENTS

Market Street, Carnforth : Friday mornings, 9-30—11-30 a.m.

7. SPEECH THERAPY

Ashton Road Clinic, Lancaster : Mondays, by appointment.

Ryelands House, Lancaster : Wednesdays, by appointment.

Convalescence

Arrangements can be made through the Divisional Health Office, Station Road, Lancaster, for the admission of children and adults to convalescent or recuperative homes. This service is not normally free of charge.

Health Visiting Service

Full-time nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire County Council to carry out duties as health visitors and school nurses.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are available to provide help in the home for persons who are incapacitated by illness, old age and infirmity, confinement, etc. Those who can afford to pay for this service are required to do so according to their means.

Home Nursing and Midwifery

Full-time nurse/midwives, who combine the duties of district nursing and domiciliary midwifery, are available within the District.

Laboratory Service

Samples of water, milk and specimens in connection with infectious diseases are dealt with at the Public Health Laboratory at Preston Royal Infirmary. Transport of samples to Preston is carried out by agreement with the Public Health Department, Lancaster City Corporation.

Samples of water for chemical analysis are sent to the Public Analyst at County Hall, Preston.

Mental Health Service

Mental Welfare Officers working in close co-operation with general practitioners and consultant psychiatrists provide supervision and after-care for the mentally subnormal living in the community and for mentally ill persons after discharge from hospital.

A Junior and an Adult Training Centre at Lancaster and Torrisholme respectively provide day care and training for the mentally handicapped and a Junior Hostel is also available for permanent or short-stay cases.

Welfare Services

The following Welfare Services are provided by the Lancashire County Council and are administered by Divisional Health Committee No. 2.

(1) RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

For elderly persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them, permanent accommodation is provided in the following Homes for the Aged : Dolphinlee, Fair Elms, The Laurels and Beaumont View at Lancaster; the Empress at Morecambe; Moor Platt and the Hermitage at Caton; Slyne House, Slyne-with-Hest. Short term care for two weeks is also available in certain circumstances.

(2) CARE OF AGED PERSONS IN THEIR OWN HOMES

The domiciliary services provided by the County Council have been expanded, where necessary, so as to provide adequate home nursing help in the home and general support in conjunction with local voluntary organisations, to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes as long as possible. A laundry service and a free chiropody service are also available.

(3) HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Registers are maintained for the blind and the deaf for whom certain welfare services are made available through the agency of voluntary organisations. Other classes of handicapped persons, including cripples, epileptics and spastics are provided with occupational therapy, chiropody, transport to social centres, holidays, etc.

(4) HOMES FOR DISABLED AND/OR OLD PERSONS

There are 8 homes of this nature in the division, all managed by voluntary bodies or private individuals. These homes are registered and inspected regularly by the Divisional Medical Staff.

**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1969

Diseases	Total Cases	Age Period — Years									
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 and over	Age Un-known
Scarlet Fever	5	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Cases..	9	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—

Disease	Total Cases	Age Period — Years													
		0-	1-	2-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	Age Un-known
Infective Jaundice	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS—1969

Age Groups.	NOTIFICATIONS				Deaths.	
	New Cases.		Inward Transfer.			
	Respiratory	Other Forms.	Respiratory	Other Forms.	Respiratory	Other Forms
0-	--	--	--	--	--	--
5-	--	--	--	--	--	--
10-	--	--	--	--	--	--
15-	--	--	--	--	--	--
20-	--	--	--	--	--	--
25-	--	--	--	--	--	--
35-	--	--	--	--	--	--
45-	--	--	--	--	--	--
55-	--	--	--	--	--	--
65-	--	--	--	--	--	--
75 and Over	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	--	--	--	--	--	--

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notification of infectious diseases decreased from 203 in 1968 to 12 in 1969. There were 3 cases of measles during the year compared with 170 in 1968. A vaccine to give protection against measles has now been introduced and it is hoped that the number of cases will remain low in the future.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION SCHEMES

Under the National Health Service a comprehensive immunisation and vaccination service is provided free of cost. At present protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox and tuberculosis is available for children at school clinics and child welfare centres. This service is available also from family doctors, except for vaccination against tuberculosis.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus by means of a triple vaccine is simple and quick and poliomyelitis vaccine can now be given by mouth at the same time. The number of children in Lunesdale so protected over the past six years is given on the opposite page, which shows a small but steady increase acceptance over the last three years.

The following figures, which relate to the whole divisional area show the percentage of young children vaccinated or immunised as at 31st December, 1969 :—Smallpox 21% of children under 2 years of age; for children born in 1968, poliomyelitis 59% whooping cough 58%, diphtheria 61%.

IMMUNISATION CARRIED OUT 1964 - 1969

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years, who completed a full course of primary immunisation			
	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Tetanus
In Year			
1969	121	108	128
1968	113	93	113
1967	150	120	152
1966	184	171	187
1965	200	185	206
1964	176	169	180

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years, who were given a reinforcement injection			
	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Tetanus
In Year			
1969	305	30	323
1968	333	30	342
1967	366	53	367
1966	326	83	267
1965	342	101	281
1964	314	82	242

POLIOMYELITIS

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years who have completed a full course of primary vaccination in 1969 ... 117

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years, who were given a reinforcement dose in 1969 177

MEASLES

Number of individuals, aged 0-15 years who have completed a full course of primary vaccination in 1969 ... 89

REPORT OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE AREA

TABLE 1

ALL VISITS DURING THE YEAR

Caravan Sites	31
Civic Amenities Act...	12
Clean Air Act	3
Drainage	59
Exhumation	1
Factory Act	9
Food Hygiene	84
Food Inspection	17
Housing	11
Improvement Grants	122
Infectious Diseases	6
Interviews and Other Visits	87
Milk Supply	112
Mobile Shops	16
Noise Abatement Act	1
Offices and Shops' Act	42
Public Health Act	62
Petroleum Regulations	4
Rodent Control... ..	99
Refuse Collection and Disposal	376
Schools	10
Shops Act	55
Water Supplies... ..	82
<hr/>	
Total Number of Visits	1301
<hr/>	

TABLE 2

Houses Provided during the Year—Newly Erected and conversions :

	TOTAL
(a) Council Houses	—
(b) Buildings Converted to Houses	2
(c) Private Houses... ..	67
(d) Mains Water Provided	60
(e) Private Water Supplies	—
(f) Connected to Sewer	61
(g) Connected to Septic Tank	10

TABLE 3

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year

1. (a)	Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	59
(b)	Number of Inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	73
(c)	Number of Dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	46
2.	Total number of Dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit approx.	11

3. Unfit Houses Closed

	Houses closed	Displaced during year.	
		Persons	Families
(i) Under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957	Nil	—	—
(ii) Under Sections 17 (3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	Nil	—	—
(iii) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ...	Nil	—	—

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

(i)	After informal action by Local Authority	3
(ii)	After formal notice under :	
	(a) Public Health Acts	Nil
	(b) Section 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
(iii)	Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	Nil

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957) ... Nil

6. Purchase of Houses by Agreement Nil

Virtually all dwellings within the district necessitating action under the Housing Acts for either closure or demolition have now been dealt with.

An undetermined number of dwellings are, however, sub-standard, but not to the point of necessitating rehousing of the occupants. As well as requiring certain repairs these dwellings, mainly tenanted, usually lack any of the standard amenities such as baths, hot water, etc., and are suitable for improving with the aid of improvement grants.

No statutory cases of overcrowding were reported during the year, the low standards laid down by the Housing Acts allowing for numerous occupants to reside in the smallest dwelling.

TABLE 4

1. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, and Housing Act, 1969

<i>Improvement Grants</i>	Owner Occupier	Tenanted
(i) Number submitted by private individuals	16	3
(ii) Number approved	14	3
(iii) Work completed	5	—
(iv) Additional separate dwellings included in (iii) above... ..	—	—
(v) Amount paid in grants... ..	£878	£1158
(vi) Average amount per house	£293	£289

2. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, and Housing Acts 1961, 1964 and 1969

<i>Standard Grants</i>	Owner Occupier	Tenanted
(i) Number submitted by private individuals	12	7
(ii) Number approved	11	7
(iii) Number refused	—	—
(iv) Number of dwellings improved	14	8
(v) Amount paid in grants	£1987	£987
(vi) Average grant per house	£153	£247

The Housing Act, 1969, which came into operation in the latter part of the year, made an impact on the number of applications for grants. The increased maximum of £1,000 for improvement grants has encouraged people to apply for them. It is hoped that more owners of tenanted houses will be encouraged to improve them with the aid of these grants.

TABLE 5

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The introduction of a bonus scheme from the 18th August improved the frequency of dustbin collection enormously. The erratic collections due to man-power shortage in the past changed to a regular weekly collection. It is still not possible to collect some sparsely populated areas more frequently than a fortnight and the six fell farms on Roeburndale are still collected once a quarter. However, over 90% of the population have their dustbins emptied weekly, which compares very favourably with the previous service.

A new S. and D. "fore and aft" vehicle was purchased during the year which replaced the older "fore and aft" Karrier tipper. The side loader was sold. The present fleet consists of two 16/20 cubic yard Dennis Paxit compression vehicles, one 18 cubic yard "fore and aft" S. and D. tipper, and one 16 cubic yard "fore and aft" Karrier tipper in reserve.

A regular system of maintenance has been devised by the Engineer and Surveyor to enable the vehicles to have a longer and more efficient life compared with previous years.

The Caton Moor tip has been used for the first full year. The strong winds on this high and exposed site make it difficult to tip the refuse without causing a nuisance from paper and plastics blowing on to the surrounding land. The low temperatures with high winds make it unreasonable to ask a man to work full time there during the winter months. In these circumstances, it is difficult to practise controlled tipping, but in the worse conditions, the refuse is covered by fine limestone at the weekend, and in the normal conditions, daily.

The problem of indiscriminate dumping in hedgerows, woods, etc., is as prevalent here as elsewhere in the country. Efforts are made to trace the offenders and the rubbish collected. A number of abandoned cars have been collected and sold as scrap. Only one owner has been traced and was successfully prosecuted under the Civic Amenities Act. The spare vehicle is used for collecting bulky items from houses free of charge and has been widely used during the year.

TABLE 6

Salvage

The income from the sale of salvage during the year is shown :—

Description	T. Cwt.	Q. lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	11	1 0 0	99	9	0
Rags and Wool	6	2 14	5	17	9
Metals		3 18	5	16	0

Waste paper is baled in a hand press by the Gardener/Handyman employed by the Council and he, together with all other collection staff is in receipt of a salvage bonus. In order to increase collections the bonus rate is 25% of all sales.

The contract for the sale of waste paper was renewed during the year, and the prices obtained were higher than before. Efforts are being made to increase the volume of paper collected and it is hoped that the increase in the prices will encourage the men.

TABLE 7

Sewerage and Drainage

Details of present methods of sewage disposal in the various parishes are shown below, and I am indebted to Mr. D. H. Maud, the Engineer and Surveyor for this information :—

Arkholme, Borwick, Burrow and Cantsfield

There are no sewerage systems in these villages, but the majority of the properties are served by individual septic tank drainage.

Caton

The main centres of population of Caton and Brookhouse drain to a sewage treatment works situated near to the River Lune. A scheme for the extension of this works to cope with the overload caused by the new development has been prepared and is to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for their approval. In addition to providing new sedimentation tanks, humus tanks and a new filter, special consideration has been given to the method of de-watering the sewage sludge by mechanical means rather than by the more usual method of air-drying on sludge drying-beds. The machine which will be installed, will be capable of dealing with all the sludge from the extended works, and in addition, with sludge brought in from certain other works where drying is proving difficult.

Claughton

One small septic tank adopted by the Council many years ago serves the Fenwick Arms Hotel and the Old Rectory. A private disposal works serves a terrace of dwellings opposite the brickworks, and the majority of the remaining properties are drained to septic tanks.

Gressingham

No sewerage system is available but the majority of the dwellings have been modernised and drained to septic tanks.

Halton

The village is now served by two sewage treatment works viz. :— The original works situated near to the old railway station on the south bank of the River Lune which receives sewage from the eastern section of Halton, and the new works sited adjacent to the Bridging Camp on the north bank of the river taking sewage from the western half of the village.

This latter works also provides capacity for dealing with the sewage from 1,000 personnel on the camp itself, and came into operation in September, 1967.

Hornby

The village is served by a sewage disposal works sited on the south bank of the River Wenning, and investigations are currently being undertaken into the capabilities of dealing adequately with the increased sewage discharge from the village as a result of development in recent years and possible future development.

Ireby

No sewerage system is provided in this somewhat scattered parish and properties where modernised have been drained to individual septic tanks.

Nether Kellet and Over Kellet

Sewerage systems and sewage treatment works are provided in both villages and each works is now adequately dealing with the total population for which it was designed.

Lowgill

One small septic tank in the ownership of the Council serves several properties in the village centre.

Leck, Melling, Wrayton, Roeburndale, Tatham, Tunstall and Wennington

No sewerage systems are provided in these parishes, some being so sparsely populated in relation to their acreage as to preclude any possibility of such services being provided. Properties where modernised, have been provided with septic tanks.

Whittington

A new sewerage system and sewage treatment works has been provided for the village and this is working well. The foul sewage from all properties is taken to the works for treatment; surface water is drained to individual soakaways. No direct discharge from the works into the River Lune takes place, the effluent being taken to a large land drainage area sited between the works and the river.

Wray

The village is served by a sewage treatment works of modern design which copes very satisfactorily with the present flow from the village.

Water Supplies

Mains water throughout the district is supplied by the Lune Valley Water Board and approximately 80% of the dwellings are connected.

The chief source of supply is obtained from Manchester Corporation's Thirlmere Aqueduct from which five tapplings have been made to serve the district.

Other local sources are used to serve the properties to Caton, Brookhouse and Lowgill and a number of properties in Quernmore use untreated water from one of the Board's reservoirs serving the City of Lancaster. Several properties on the boundaries of Lancaster obtain water from the Lancaster City mains and some farms in the Tatham area obtain mains water from Yorkshire.

Some 60 new dwellings were connected during the year to mains water supply, mainly in the Halton and Over Kellet parishes where the majority of new development took place.

TABLE 8

The following figures are an estimate of the number of properties in each parish served by mains and private water supplies.

Parish	From Public Mains		Private Supplies	
	No. of Houses	Population Served	No. of Houses.	Population Served
Arkholme-with-Cawood ...	88	213	14	62
Borwick	52	139	1	4
Burrow-with-Burrow ...	45	128	7	17
Cantsfield	21	74	1	5
Caton-with-Littledale ...	965	2,728	42	126
Claughton	45	143	2	12
Gressingham	47	125	1	4
Halton-with-Aughton ...	796	2,313	4	16
Hornby-with-Farleton ...	217	538	2	9
Ireby	20	62	1	4
Nether Kellet	199	603	3	8
Over Kellet	208	638	14	40
Leck	55	168	5	17
Melling-with-Wrayton ...	75	226	—	—
Quernmore	95	300	88	282
Roeburndale	—	—	21	80
Tatham	58	186	57	203
Tunstall	29	73	5	15
Wennington	44	144	—	—
Whittington	83	240	19	56
Wray-with-Botton	133	413	18	76
Total Whole District ...	3,275	9,454	305	1,036

TABLE 9

Samples of Water submitted for Biological Examination

	Total	Laboratory Report	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Borwick... ..	1	1	—
Brookhouse	10	6	4
Caton	12	11	1
Hornby/Wray	7	7	—
Halton	9	9	—
Regional	21	21	—
Kellets	3	3	—
Lowgill	2	2	—
Quernmore	7	4	3
	72	64	8

The results of samples taken over the District have been consistently good except for those taken from Quernmore Parish (untreated) and those in Caton and Brookhouse. The Brookhouse filter house is still causing some concern and I know the Lune Valley Water Board is working to find a solution to the inconsistent results. The Quernmore supply will not improve until some form of treatment is applied.

Private Water Supplies

Fifteen samples were taken from private water supplies during the year.

There are approximately 310 dwellings in the district using water from private sources, and the majority of them are isolated farm-houses where public water will never be supplied, or at least not in the foreseeable future. Where milk herds are kept, the water supplies to the farm are checked for bacteriological quality by the various Government bodies concerned, and sampling of private water supplies has, therefore, been limited during the year to private houses, etc.

Where application for grant aid under the Housing Acts is made in respect of dwellings on private water supplies, the approval thereof is now made conditional to the supply either being brought up to the necessary standard, or for filters to be provided, if after works of improvement have been carried out the supply is still sub-standard,

MILK SUPPLIES

There are approximately 34 producer-retailers of milk in the district and some half-dozen registered dealers. Several shops in the area are also registered for the sale of milk, these being mainly pasteurised supplies from the main dairies.

Routine sampling of raw milk supplies was carried out at regular two-monthly intervals.

A total of 181 samples were submitted during the year for examination. Of these samples 27 were positive to the Culture test for *Brucella Abortus*. Nine of the positive samples were found in one herd. The cows were immediately isolated and sold at the next auction. Another nine cows were found to be infected in another herd. A notice was served prohibiting the sale of raw milk from the farm. The notice was withdrawn when the milk round was sold to a dealer selling pasteurised milk only. A further herd was found to have five cows infected. These were also isolated until sold.

When the cows are isolated, they have been moved to a separate shippin and milked separately from the main herd. In other cases individual cows have been isolated and sold. The milk, in each case, has been sent for treatment by pasteurisation.

I am pleased to report that all the producer-retailers have entered the Brucellosis (Accredited Herds) Scheme and some have now successfully passed all the Ministry of Agriculture tests.

TABLE 10

FOOD SHOPS AND CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

The total number of food premises within the area is 76 details of which are given below :—

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	...	23
Green-grocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	2
Meat Shops	...	...	...	5
Bakers and/or Confectioners	...	...	...	3
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	3
Shops selling mainly Confectionery, Minerals, etc.	...	...	...	8
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens, Cafes, etc....	...	...	...	31
Others	...	...	...	1

Of the above premises, 31 are registered for the sale of ice-cream and 5 for the sale of cooked meats.

The general trend of modern packaging and storing of foodstuffs has been maintained in the District. Owners of food premises are modernising their storage facilities and there is a genuine desire by them to be hygienic.

It is hoped that the present general high standard of food premises will be maintained in the future not only because of the legal requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, but also through a genuine desire of the retailer of provide good sound food to his customers.

TABLE II

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

	No. of Registered Premises	No. receiving a General Inspection	No. of Exemptions
Offices	7	2	—
Retail Shops	18	18	—
Wholesale Premises	—	—	—
Catering Establishments	9	9	—
Fuel Storage Depot... ..	—	—	—
	34	29	—

Number of Visits of all kinds to Registered Premises : 42.

Designed to improve working conditions of employees in offices, shops and other sundry premises, the above Act gives the local authority wide powers to ensure the provision of adequate lighting, heating, ventilation, sanitary accommodations, drinking-water and first aid equipment. Prevention of accidents is also covered by detailed legislation requiring such things as guards on machinery, stair-cases, floor openings, etc.

There are 34 registered premises in the Lunesdale Rural Area and of these 29 were inspected during the year. The majority of establishments were fully in compliance with the requirements of the Act.

IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS, 1968

In these regulations, if a Port Health Authority is satisfied that imported food in sealed containers is going to one person in an inland area, they do not examine the food but notify the Inspector of the area of destination who has a duty to examine this food.

Some 44,700 chickens, 4,554lbs. livers and 2,310lbs. of necks have been delivered in the District by this method during the year. The examination of his food takes place at the time of delivery to the firm.

TABLE 12

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. *Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).*

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occu- piers Prose- cuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	28	5	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Total	39	9	—	—

2. *Cases in which Defects were found 4*

3. *Cases in which Defects were remedied ... 4*

Part VIII of the Act—Out work.

There are no registered outworkers in the district.

TABLE 13

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent control is carried out on a part-time basis by the foreman in control of the refuse collection service.

Contract services to farms and business premises are available at modest cost and private households are treated free.

The operator's illness last year has since allowed him more time for this service than has been possible in the past.

The regular contract test baiting and treatments has shown that the rat population can be kept to small infestations. It is hoped that further contracts can be obtained from more farmers so that an even better service over the District can be obtained.

The sewer treatments showed only one length of sewer to be infested. This length was cleared of rats.

Action relating to rodent control during the year ended 31st December, 1969.

	Non-Agri- cultural	Agri- cultural
(1) No. of properties	3192	481
(2) No. of properties inspected	133	39
(3) No. of properties found to be in- fested by :		
Rats	99	32
Mice	34	7
No. of infested properties	17	72

CARAVANS

There are 37 registered caravan sites in the district containing a total of 297 caravans at the peak holiday periods of mid-summer. Of this total of 297 caravans some 49 are on residential sites and occupied during the whole of the year.

The main sites in the district are as follows :—

Scarthwaite, Crook o' Lune	100	Seasonal
Wegber Quarry, Capernwray	75	Seasonal
Intack Farm, Nether Kellet	36	Seasonal
Greyhound Hotel Site, Halton	19	Residential

The remaining 67 caravans are situated on small sites with up to 5 caravans each and numerous other sites, with individual caravans.

On all sites of over 5 caravans conditions are specified in accordance with model standards, based on those issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Smaller sites are required to conform with a lower standard, covering water supply, sanitary accommodation and refuse disposal facilities.

In the main the sites within the district give few difficulties, and are in full compliance with the conditions specified in their licences.

Some itinerant camping in tents does take place from time to time, but there are no regular sites in use within the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, confer powers on the local authority to prevent or minimise the pollution of the atmosphere from smoke emitted from domestic and industrial chimneys.

Industry in Lunesdale is concentrated in the main in the western end of the district, and observations have been made during the year on emissions from smoke stacks serving the main industrial premises. No contraventions of the regulations were noted but several routine visits were made to boiler plant as a precautionary measure.

No smoke control orders have been made or considered by the Council, and indeed with the exception of the parishes of Caton and Halton, are not necessary in an area where the population is spread as thinly as 0.13 to the acre. It might well be that with the continued growth of Caton and Halton some form of smoke control will be necessary in the future.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the area, but several private pools do exist at Leck, Tunstall and Gressingham. The pool at Leck is used on occasions by school-children from a nearby village.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are no byelaws governing the standards of hygiene of hairdressing establishments in the area, although powers are contained in the Public Health Act, 1961, to enable the Council to make them.

Most establishments are, however, visited regularly for inspection under the Shops Act, 1950, or the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, and on all occasions have been found to be satisfactory.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades carried on in the district.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES

There are none in the district.

CANAL BOATS

There are no canal boats passing through the district as defined by the Public Health Act, 1936. Pleasure craft, however, do use the canal that passes through the parishes of Borwick and Over Kellet but these are exempt from any legislation. In the event of any of this type of craft being moored on a permanent basis they would then come under the scope of the Planning and Public Health Acts.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT

Action can now be taken against excessive noise either by the local authority or by a group of at least three citizens affected by the noise.

One complaint was received during the year concerning the noise from a hay drier. This was cured by building partitions to baffle the noise.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

This Act enables local authorities to require the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for employees on farms, etc.

Inspections under this legislation are made when premises are visited for such matters as milk sampling and routine checks on water supply, etc.

SCHOOLS

There are 14 schools in the district and most of these were visited during the year. Seven establishments are connected to the main sewer and seven to private works.

All the schools are provided with mains water, and one at Quernmore is served with a private supply. In the case of the Quernmore school adequate treatment by modern plant is provided and on all occasions when sampled the water was bacteriologically satisfactory.

